

NAVY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF NAVIGATION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

NO-MAR

5 February 1924.

BUREAU OF NAVIGATION NEWS BULLETIN NO. 39.

THE BUREAU REQUESTS THAT THIS BULLETIN BE GIVEN FREE CIRCULATION AMONG OFFICERS AND THAT ITEMS OF INTEREST BE PUBLISHED TO THE INTERESTED PERSONNEL. THIS BULLETIN IS NOT CONFIDENTIAL AND MAY BE DESTROYED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER. CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT WILL BE APPRECIATED.

- - - - -

1. SHIP AND GUN DRILLS: (Revised Edition)

The revised edition of the Ship and Gun Drills, called the 1922 edition, has just been received from the Government Printing Office. Distribution is being made from Navy Supply Depot to all ships on the basis of allowance list of Par. E-607, in the Bureau of Navigation Manual. Upon receipt of the new edition, all copies of former editions should be destroyed after having been surveyed.

2. AWARD OF MEDAL OF HONOR: (Lieutenant Commander W. Atlee Edwards, USN.)

The Department takes pleasure in announcing the award of a Medal of Honor to Lieutenant Commander Walter Atlee Edwards, U.S. Navy "For heroism in rescuing 482 men, women and children from the French Military Transport VINH-LONG destroyed by fire in the Sea of Marmora, Turkey, on December 16, 1923."

Lieutenant Commander Edwards, commanding the U.S.S. BAINBRIDGE, placed his vessel alongside the bow of the French Transport and in spite of several violent explosions which occurred on the burning French vessel maintained his ship in that position until all that were alive were taken on board. Of a total of 495 on board 482 were rescued by his coolness, judgment and professional skill which were combined with a degree of heroism that must reflect new glory on the United States Navy.

3. NEW BOOKS FOR SHIPS' LIBRARIES:

Among the new books recently sent to most ships and stations, attention of officers is particularly invited to the following, which are especially recommended:

Beard, C.A. Cross-currents in Europe to-day.

A non-partisan discussion of present-day diplomatic situation in Europe, by an eminent historian.

Gibbons, Herbert Adams. Europe since 1918.

Mr. Gibbons, whose books on international relations are well-known, has in this, his latest work, presented the European situation since the armistice. He includes among other topics the reparations crisis, the Ruhr expedition, and conditions in Russia and Italy.

Priestly, Herbert. Mexican nation.

Up to the present time there has been no satisfactory one-volume history of the conquest, development and institutions of Mexico. This, in brief, is what the 'Mexican nation' is. The lack of effective maps is the only serious drawback to the book. In general, it will be found most enjoyable and profitable. Teachers of Mexican history have stated that it is unequalled in its field."

Werner, M.R. Barnum.

Barnum is so typical of his age, that he abundantly deserves to be dug up from the limbo into which he has fallen. Mr. Werner has told the story of this large, complex, winning, vulgar personality with admirable success. A fascinating biography.

Wharton, Edith. Son at the front.

Maurice Francis Egan states Mrs. Wharton has so far done nothing that equals this, which, considering her past achievements, is high praise.

4. LETTERS OF COMMENDATION FROM SECRETARY OF THE NAVY:

The Secretary of the Navy has commended Edw. Valentine Burke, Sea. 2d. cl., USNRF. for his heroic rescue of Cecil Wade Hulet, Appr. Sea., USNRF. from drowning 19 July 1923 in the Mississippi river. While swimming about 75 ft. from shore, Hulet was suddenly seized with cramps in both legs and called for help. Burke pulled off his clothes, rushed into the water and swam to where Hulet had gone down for the third time. Burke dived down, grasped him by the hair and succeeded in bringing him to the surface.

The Secretary of the Navy has commended Roy Hite, Fireman 1st. cl. USN and Paul Thos. Woods, Sea., 2d. cl. for their brave and heroic rescue of Ervin R. Kelley, Fireman 3d. cl., USN. from drowning 12 Nov., 1923 in the Harbor of San Diego, Calif. Kelley was seized with cramps and fell overboard in a strong tideway, which carried him 100 yds. astern and for a few seconds he struggled frantically. Hite dove over after him, followed by Woods who reached the helpless man first and supported him.

By the time Hite arrived Woods was exhausted by the swim and Hite attracted a passing shore boat, assisting both men until he was able to climb the boat and pull them in.

The Secretary of the Navy has commended Felton Rice, Pharmacist's Mate, 1st. Cl., USN. attached to Submarine Base, Coco Solo, Canal Zone for the excellent first aid treatment rendered by him to Wilbur S. Wingard, Sea. 2d. cl., USN. 11 Sept., 1923. Wingard fell overboard from the U.S.S. O-1. His left leg was struck by a propeller and almost severed below the knee. In addition he became unconscious and was nearly drowned before he was rescued. His condition was extremely serious and called for prompt medical attention. Rice controlled the hemorrhage and applied an emergency dressing immobilizing the leg so well that it was unnecessary to disturb it during the entire trip to Ancon Hospital. Rice was entirely responsible for the first aid rendered in this case as there was no medical officer within fifty miles. Due to the excellent manner and faithful service displayed by him in handling the case, the life and leg of Wingard was saved.

The Secretary of the Navy has commended Marion Lee Fielder, Appr. Sea, USN., Naval Tr. Sta., Gt. Lakes, Ill. for his presence of mind, resourcefulness and bravery, which resulted in saving the life of Ralph Leavey Beutler, Appr. Sea., USN. from drowning. Beutler was seized with cramps in a swimming tank and unable to help himself. His condition was observed by Fielder and without hesitation he dove into the tank and pulled him to the surface. Without assistance he undoubtedly would have been drowned within a few minutes.

The Secretary of the Navy has commended Elbert McCoy, Fireman 1st. cl. and Robt. Earl Simpson, Elec. Mate 2d. cl., USN. attached to the U.S.S. SEAGULL for their heroic efforts, above and beyond the call of duty, to save the life of John Andrew, late Water Tender, 1st. cl., USN. who died as the result of a fall from the top of the Pali, a sheer precipice on the northern site of Hawaii. McCoy realizing the imminent danger grasped Andrew by the clothing which unfortunately gave way, and allowed him to fall 400 ft. McCoy and Simpson risked their lives many times in attempting to rescue Andrew from the ledge on which he had fallen.

NAVY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF NAVIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

In reply address not the signer of
this letter, to Bureau of Navigation,
Navy Department, Washington, D. C.
105-10-100

Nav-MAR

13 February 1924.

BUREAU OF NAVIGATION NEWS BULLETIN NO. 40.

THE BUREAU REQUESTS THAT THIS BULLETIN BE GIVEN FREE CIRCULATION AMONG OFFICERS AND THAT ITEMS OF INTEREST BE PUBLISHED TO THE ENLISTED PERSONNEL. THIS BULLETIN IS NOT CONFIDENTIAL AND MAY BE DESTROYED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER. CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT WILL BE APPRECIATED.

- - - - -
* *

COMMENDATIONS: The Navy Department has commended Henry John Reinhardt, Radioman, 3d. cl., USN. for his meritorious conduct in making a trip in a 16 ft. dory, in order to obtain assistance for the S.S. STARR which was aground off melina point, to the Naval Radio Station at Kodiak Alaska which was approximately a distance of two miles.

The Navy Department has commended Mr. Harold Shiglar for his brave and gallant rescue of Russell Lindsey Sturgeon, Sen. 2d. cl., USN. from drowning. Sturgeon had been under water for some time when Shiglar dived in 18 ft. water and succeeded in getting him to the surface.

The Secretary of the Navy has commended Wm. Oldendorph, Chief Pharmacist's Mate, USN. at the time of his transfer to the Fleet Naval Reserve for having a record covering his entire service of twenty years which contains no report against him of any infraction of Navy Regulations.

U.S. COAST GUARD ACTIVITIES: (from Coast Guard Bulletin).

The President has transmitted to Congress a supplemental estimate of appropriation for the fiscal year 1924 for increasing the equipment and personnel of the U. S. Coast Guard. This estimate amounts to \$15,853,989. The estimate is for the purpose of providing additional equipment and personnel necessary to carry out the President's program of combating more thoroughly so-called rum running and unlawful importation of intoxicating liquors.

It is contemplated to secure approximately twenty torpedo boat destroyers of the second line and two mine sweepers from the Navy Department. The above estimate provides for the building or purchase of 223 cabin cruiser type motor boats; of 100 seabright dory type motor boats; reopening of 19 life-saving stations; the organization of 24 section bases; the establishment of 3 receiving stations; and training of recruits.

CANCELLATION OF PROPOSED POLAR FLIGHT: The Department on February 15th issued orders for the discontinuance of all activities in connection with the proposed Polar Flight of the U.S.S. SHENANDOAH. The only activity that will be carried out which was included in the original arrangements will be the erecting of a mast and the necessary conversion to a tender of the U.S.S. PATOKA, which work will be done principally by the Navy Yard Norfolk.

CAUSES FOR DESERTION DERIVED FROM INTELLIGENCE TEST: Two hundred deserters who surrendered or were delivered filled out a questionnaire and the following is a summary of the causes these men gave for desertion:

- 39 Lack of pay
- 46 Conditions under which the men work, the kinds of work, hours, etc.
- 56 Men complained that treatment was unfair.
- 7 Gave sickness as the cause.
- 23 Had trouble with officers.
- 24 Had trouble with G.P.O.'s.
- 26 Had trouble with other men; stealing of clothing, nagging, etc.
- 45 Gave home needs as the cause.
- 16 Claimed they were homesick.
- 8 Gave drunkenness as their alibi.

These two hundred men were given the O'Rourke General Intelligence Test. Dividing the two hundred into two equal parts of one hundred men each, the one hundred men who secured the poorer grades in the Intelligence Tests served a total of 1919 months. The other one hundred men who secured the higher grades in the Intelligence Tests had served a total of 2621 months, making a difference of 7.02 months more service for each of the one hundred more intelligent men.

INFORMATION PERTAINING TO AMERICAN OLYMPIC TEAM: It is requested that all matters pertaining to the preparation for the tryouts by Navy personnel for the American Olympic Team be referred to the Training Division of the Bureau of Navigation which has been designated to have charge of the preparation of all Navy and Marine Corps candidates.

The Bureau of Navigation has requested the Naval Reserve to take part in competitions for the American Olympic Team. There are enrolled in the Reserve Force a great number of young men who are at present attending schools and colleges and it is hoped that some of them may gain a place in the Olympic Team. The Commandants of the various districts have already sent out invitations to the Reserves to take part in these competitions. Successful candidates in the district competitions will be sent to the Naval Academy for a short period of training before the final tryouts.